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## General Comment

[Edited by Gilbert Campbell Scoggin, The University of Missouri.]

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Professor J. L. Myres, of Oxford, has recently prepared a *Catalogue of the Cesnola Collection of Antiquities from Cyprus* for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

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A very useful book for teachers is *The Introduction to the Study of Language*, by Professor Leonard Bloomfield, of the University of Illinois. It was published in 1914 by Henry Holt & Co.

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FitzGerald Tisdall, for half a century a professor of Greek in the College of the City of New York, died in November. He was a member of numerous learned societies and was a skilled chess player.

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Professor Clifford H. Moore, of Harvard, is writing a book dealing with *The Religious Thought of the Greeks from Homer to the Triumph of Christianity*. It will be published by the Harvard University Press.

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The annual Shakespeare lecture before the British Academy for 1914 was delivered by Professor Gilbert Murray, whose subject was "Hamlet and Orestes: A Study in Traditional Types." The lecture has been issued by the Oxford University Press.

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Of books dealing with *Urgeschichte* appearing during the past year mention should be made of *Prehistoric Man and His Story*, by G. F. Scott Elliot (London: Seeley, Service, & Co.) and *The Antiquity of Man in Europe*, by James Geikie (New York: Van Nostrand).

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"Ancient Literary Detractors of Cicero" is the title of an article by Professor G. R. Throop which appeared in the *Washington University Studies* for October, 1913. In the same *Studies* for April, 1914, Professor Throop discusses "The Lives and Verse of Roman Erotic Writers."

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At the meeting of the Michigan State Teachers' Association held at Saginaw in October, the Classical Section was addressed by Professor Walter Miller, of the University of Missouri, who spoke on "Delphi and the Pythian Oracle." In November, Professor Miller addressed the Missouri State Teachers' Association at Kansas City on "Olympia and the Olympic Games." Both lectures were illustrated.

On September 12 occurred the death of Professor M. L. D'Ooge, of the University of Michigan. He was well known to many generations of college students through his editions of Demosthenes' *On the Crown* and of Sophocles' *Antigone*. His more recent book on *The Acropolis of Athens* was the fruit of repeated study on the spot. He was a brother of Professor Benjamin D'Ooge, of the Michigan State Normal School.

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In spite of the war, the London book sales go on without apparent interruption. Of interest to classical scholars is the sale announced at Hodgeson's of an important part of the library of Ingram Bywater, late Regius Professor of Greek at Oxford. The volumes consist of early printed books, books in fine bindings, and, in particular, his large collection of works relating to Aristotle. Bywater is known especially for his work on the *Ethics* and the *Poetics*.

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Dr. L. L. Forman, formerly of the Greek department of Cornell University, has recently returned to America after three years' residence in Europe. He has lately edited the *Clouds* of Aristophanes, with notes and introduction. In a second set of notes added as an appendix he comments on various questions of Greek philosophy, Greek history, and Greek comedy. Special attention is given to ancient Greek rhythms, modern musical notation being used in their elucidation.

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Sir Frederic Kenyon, of the Department of Manuscripts of the British Museum, is in active service in the war. Although living almost five hundred years after the invention of printing by movable types, he enjoys the rare distinction of being the editor of at least three *editiones principes* of classical authors: the *Mimes* of Herodas (1891); the treatise *On the Constitution of Athens*, generally ascribed to Aristotle (1891); and *Bacchylides* (1897). These were all edited from newly discovered papyri in the possession of the British Museum.

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Under the general title of *Records of Civilization*, a series of volumes has been announced by the Columbia University Press. The general editor is Professor J. T. Shotwell, who will contribute a volume on *The History of History*. One object of the series is to present in English translation the chief "sources" of European history, together with comment and full bibliographies. Of the seventeen volumes announced, there has already appeared the volume on *Hellenic Civilization*, edited by Professors G. W. Botsford and E. G. Sihler, with contributions from Professor Westermann and others, containing more than 700 pages. The undertaking has been characterized by the *American Historical Review* as "one of the greatest importance."

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At the October meeting of the Bibliographical Society in London was presented a paper written by Mr. Alfred Pollard on "The Work of Bruce Rogers, Printer." Mr. Rogers is an American who for twelve years worked with the

Houghton Mifflin Company, and who during that time brought forth from the Riverside Press a series of volumes that are superb. His edition of Mackail's version of the *Georgics of Virgil*, with its charming vignettes, may properly take its place beside the best products of the presses of Aldus, Stephanus, and Elzevir. It is a pity that such an artistic printer could not be secured to direct the printing of the Loeb Classical Library; for the irresistible charm of his work would have done much toward bringing about a new Renaissance.

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The Burton Coin Collection was dispersed at auction at the Anderson Galleries in New York on November 5. These coins included many rare and valuable pieces from many countries from early times to the present day. There was a very fine specimen of a Persian *daric*, such as is often depicted in our school editions of the *Anabasis*, and a *stater* of the time of Alexander the Great. Of silver Greek coins there were several dating from about 500 B.C. on. Among the Roman coins were numerous examples of *denarii*. Of special interest were three specimens of the old bronze *aes*. These huge coins weigh about ten ounces and date from 350 B.C. The obverse shows a Janiform head of Jupiter while the reverse shows the prow of a Roman ship. Included also was a Carthaginian electrum *stater* dating from about 300 B.C.

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An attractive book from the publishing house of John Lane is *War Poems and Other Translations*, by Lord Curzon of Kedleston. As was true in the case of Lord Wellesley, Lord Derby, Gladstone, and many others busy with public affairs, the former governor-general of India finds recreation in literary study. To quote a quotation of his own from Cicero's *Pro Archia*: "Haec studia adulescentiam alunt, senectutem oblectant, secundas res ornant, adversis perfugium ac solacium praebent, delectant domi, non impediunt foris, pernoscant nobiscum, peregrinantur, rusticantur." Included are English versions from the Greek, Latin, Italian, and French. Simonides of Ceos, Plato, even the *CIG*, Horace, Virgil, Dante, find a place along with our contemporaries, the Belgian poets, Cammaerts and Verhaeren. There are several Latin renderings from Clough, Byron, Wordsworth, Tennyson, and others.

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The *National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1915, contains a very readable article by Ernest Lloyd Harris on "Historic Islands of the Aegean Sea." The author made his cruise among the islands "in a cutter which was sufficiently large to carry three passengers, three seamen, and a cook." Being master of his time and his course, he was able to visit many out-of-the-way places, which he describes with constant reference to their checkered history. Special attention is given to Chios, Samos, and Rhodes, which at every turn recall to his memory great men and events of the past. Through the text are interspersed twenty-eight fine illustrations and a map. In the same magazine for October, George Higgins Moses, formerly our minister to Greece, writes on

"Greece of Today." He deals chiefly with modern Athens, but he has some interesting remarks on the modern Greek language and on the guarding of Greek antiquities.

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In a letter dated February 22, 1884, Professor F. J. Child, writing to his friend James Russell Lowell, who was at that time minister to England, says: "I can tell you, we need you here now. The chemists are in conspiracy to oust Greek, and then Latin; and would have us crown with laurel fellows who can only analyze coal-tar. They want to cut loose from the old world completely. Charles Adams has persuaded them that there is nothing to be found in the writings of Plato but the art of stopping hiccough." The personal reference is to Charles Francis Adams, who became a member of the Board of Overseers of Harvard in 1882, and who for many years thereafter was the sworn foe of classical training. His Phi Beta Kappa address of a quarter of a century ago was long regarded as a sort of proclamation of the advent of the "new learning." That late in life he suffered a change of heart is well known. Only a short time before his death, in another Phi Beta Kappa address, he said: "I would prescribe one of the classic tongues, Greek or Latin, as a compulsory study to the day of graduation, the one royal road to a knowledge of all that is finest in letters and art." A memorial address eulogizing Mr. Adams as a publicist was delivered last November in Boston by Senator Lodge.

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The American Academy of Arts and Letters and the National Institute of Arts and Letters met in joint session in Boston on November 18 and 19. The American Academy, founded less than a decade ago, consists of 50 members, who are chosen out of the larger membership of the Institute, both organizations together numbering 250 members. Both bodies are self-perpetuating and members of the Academy retain their membership in the Institute. The Academy was founded for the purpose of accomplishing in America what the French Academy has accomplished in France. It hopes to foster the highest ideals in art and literature. William Dean Howells was awarded the medal for fiction. Classical literature is ably represented in the Academy by Professor B. L. Gildersleeve, of Johns Hopkins University, and in the Institute by Professor Paul Shorey, of the University of Chicago. Charles Eliot Norton was one of the early members of the Academy, and Harry Thurston Peck was a member of the Institute. The catholic taste of the Academy is indicated by the fact that it sent an official letter of appreciation to Mr. Granville Barker recently after he had presented a series of Greek plays in America. Of course it would be easy to point to distinguished Americans who have not been admitted to membership in the Academy or even in the Institute. However, one recalls the fact that Molière was never admitted to the French Academy, but today the Academy is glad to display in its halls his bust, whereon one may read the following inscription: "Rien ne manque à sa gloire, il manquait à la notre."